

## Grading Starts on \$9,500,000 Shopping Center, Bowling Palace

### 3 LARGE CHAINS SCHEDULED

Announcement of the start of one of America's most outstanding regional shopping and community centers, to be located on a 50-acre lot at the Southwest corner of Hawthorne boulevard and 174th street, was made today by Sidney F. Brody, president of Brody Investment company, Beverly Hills.

Brody disclosed that the area of the buildings will be in excess of 450,000 square feet and that the investment in land and buildings, alone, will exceed \$9,500,000, not including large expenditures by the tenants for fixtures and inventory.

The area will be known as the South Bay Shopping Center, and construction begins as soon as present grading operations are completed.

This new center will offer one-stop shopping service to over 400,000 people who reside in the cities of Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Lennox, Hawthorne, Lawndale, Gardena and Torrance.

It is estimated that the South Bay Shopping Center will do an annual sales volume in excess of \$25,000,000.

The unique "L" shape design of the center, with key stores on both ends and the corner, makes it possible for all smaller stores to be within 200 feet of the major units.

Buildings have been arranged (Continued on Page 3)

## Seek To Halt Construction Of Mortuary

With construction started on the new Halverson mortuary, corner Cravens and Engracia, a local resident, Earl Miller, of 1304 Arlington, announced this week through his attorney, Jack Stearns, that he was seeking a court injunction to halt construction until a final court ruling has been handed down on the matter. Action will be filed by Monday at the latest, Stearns said.

Miller, who has protested against the mortuary all along, appealed to the Supreme Court of California when the Superior Court of the State of California ruled in favor of the mortuary.

Miller maintains that the variance for the mortuary was granted illegally in violation of the city ordinance.

The city has maintained all along that Miller's charges are mere technicalities and that the spirit of the ordinance was complied with in every respect.

The new Halverson mortuary is located opposite Stone and Myers, the only other mortuary in Torrance.

## Residents Demand Action On Madison Street Ditch

About 35 Walteria homeowners appeared before the City Council Tuesday night, on behalf of 272 petitioners who want to get something done about Madison street ditch, which has been called a catch-all for all kinds of garbage, trash, and waste products.

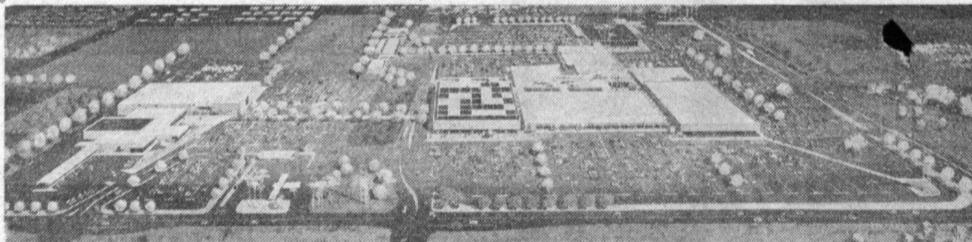
The Council recommended that representatives of the homeowners meet with City Engineer Ronald Bishop in order to consider plans for an assessment district in order to improve the area.

Share Cost City Manager George Stevens and Council members indicated that the city would provide the engineering service for the area but residents would have to pay the rest of the improvement costs.

"We've tried to get the County Flood Control and County Board of Supervisors to help here," Stevens said, "but they told us that this is a local problem."

One reason why the city cannot assume full costs of the improvement, Mayor Nick Drale stated, is that there are many similar requests all over the city. This would run the city into too much money.

Charges Cited A petition drafted



SHOPPING CENTER: Architect's rendering of new \$9,500,000 South Bay Shopping Center to be erected on a 50 acre plot at the corner of 174th street and Hawthorne boulevard in

No. Torrance area by Brody Investment co. Architects of the project are A. Quincy Jones, Frederick Emmons and Victor Gruen & Associates. Center will be ready in about 9 months.

## Council Split on Future Of Civil Service Board

The Torrance City Fathers had a man-sized headache on their hands this week created by the recent firing of the Civil Service Commission as a board of appeals. Two cases arose Tuesday requiring the attention of the Board but were left hanging in mid-air because councilmen couldn't agree on what to do.

To add to the difficulties, only three of the five councilmen were present, two being home with the flu. It therefore required the unanimous agreement of the three members to get anything done, which was asking for the impossible under the circumstances.

Councilman Albert Isen, as on previous occasions, insisted that this would be a good time to contract with the county for an impartial board of appeals to hear these two cases.

Mayor Nick Drale, on the other hand, insisted that the proper and most efficient solution would be to reinstate the fired board of appeals at least temporarily for the specific purpose of hearing the two present cases.

Councilman Mervin Schwab felt the same way as Drale and sided with the mayor when the matter was put to vote. The vote was lost, however, for lack of a council majority.

Mayor Drale denounced the recent firing of the Civil Service (Continued on Page 3)

## Lomita Men Appointed To College Post

Three Lomita men have been invited to become members of the new Harbor Junior College general advisory committee.

They are Earl B. Barnett, Narbonne High school principal; Tim McCormick, president of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce; and Ray H. Reed, publisher of the Lomita News, according to Raymond J. Casey, college director.

The first meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, February 24, at 2 p.m. in room 505 of the campus center building.

## Residents Demand Action On Madison Street Ditch

E. Schoonover, president of the Pacific Hills Home Owners association, and signed by 272 residents, lists the following grievances against the Madison street channel:

1. It is a menace to the health and safety of children. The ditch, about 30 feet wide and 20 feet deep, is soft and marshy in many places to a depth of five feet. It provides a breeding place for mosquitos, bugs, and pests.
2. It is an eyesore to the community, having become a dumping ground for trash, garbage, and even small dead animals.
3. The ditch is not in its proper easement and rains wash dirt away off the back yards.
4. Industrial waste products appear to be draining into the ditch.

The issue has been kicked back and forth for two years

association, homeowners

A petition drafted

## Alert Guard Flushes Thirsty Safe Burglar

A safe burglar, whose one reward for his efforts was a coke which he drank on the job, took a quick powder when his activities at the Pacific Perforating co., 1024 Engracia, were detected by an alert night watchman Monday.

Clyde M. Denton, Empire Patrol guard, was making his routine check of the building shortly after 10 p.m. As he entered the front door, he saw the suspect leave one of the safes was located, according to police records.

Upon being asked what he was doing there, the suspect replied, "I'm working here tonight."

Denton then walked around to where he could see the safe and noticed that it had been tampered with.

The suspect, in the meantime, left the scene. He fled by climbing out a window near the front door, after first breaking the glass.

The man was described as about 26 years old, 5'10", weighing about 150 pounds. He had sandy-colored hair and "a long" face. The burglar wore a black woolen jacket, black gloves, levis, and a black stocking cap.

There was no money in the two safes which he tampered with. When discovered by Denton, the suspect was drinking a coke from a nearby coke machine which he had also broken into.

## STEEL SCHOOL LOW BID TOLD

Low bidder on the Steele elementary school in the Kaufmann tract is George W. Carter with a bid of \$361,955.

The Board of Education is expected to award the contract at its next meeting, Tuesday, February 15.

Next to the lowest bidder was Carter-Mack builders with a bid of \$369,950.

## FAREWELL PARTY



RETIRING AFTER 31 YEARS of service as a roll turner with Columbia Steel, A. J. Ferguson (center) of 908 Beech ave. was honored by fellow-workers recently with a farewell party. Fellow employees presented him with a Longine

wrist watch. Extending best wishes are (l) Harry Blanchard, roll designer, and Charley Becker (r), roll shop supervisor. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson are planning a trip to Canada in the near future.

## Plead Not Guilty To Rape Charge

Ernest G. Dandoy, 23, and Jack H. Neathery, 21, arrested last November on charges of rape and kidnaping, pleaded not guilty to these two counts Friday, February 4. They pleaded guilty instead to a third count charging them with assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury.

Trial was held last Friday, February 4, in Long Beach Superior Court before Judge Joseph M. Maltby. An amended complaint was filed and sentencing was continued till March 4, court sources disclosed.

Dandoy, who lives at 1506 West 251st street, Harbor City, and Neathery, of 1528 West 222nd street, were arrested in connection with the alleged assault of a widowed mother of two children, Mrs. Marilyn Hitchcock, 27, of 25516 Doble avenue, Harbor City.

Hitchcock's escort, Virgil Robertson, 33, of Redondo Beach, was allegedly snogged during the episode which occurred in the Palos Verdes hills.

Dandoy and Neathery are out on bail.

## 2nd Hearing On Annexation Wed., Feb. 16

The second public hearing on annexation of 6513 acres of land in the Rolling Hills area will be held next week, Wednesday, February 16, at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers of the City Hall, corner Cravens and El Prado.

The first hearing was held last night. No information regarding its outcome was available at press time.

If attendance at the hearing is large enough, it was indicated, the location of the hearing might be moved to the Civic Auditorium.

Spokesmen wishing to be heard are asked to contact Planning Secretary George Powell so that their name may be placed on the agenda and they will be assured of a hearing. Powell may be reached at FA 8-3310.

## Man Killed In Gravel Pit Cave-In, 1 Saved

A workman, working at the bottom of a 300-foot gravel pit, lost his life Friday when he was buried under tons of sliding sand, despite desperate attempts on the part of fellow workers and county firemen to rescue him.

Frantic digging saved the life of a fellow-worker who was buried up to his neck during the cave-in.

Pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General hospital after being buried under tons of sand for nearly two hours was Joseph Salaveggio, 28, of 2421 Lomita boulevard.

One Freed Risking their own lives, workers and firemen freed John D. Robertson, 34, of 26950 Dapplegray Lane, Rolling Hills, after 40 minutes of dangerous digging.

Robertson, plant superintendent and Salaveggio, both employed by Chandler Sand and Gravel company, were placing a shot of dynamite on the side of the quarry at 26311 Narbonne avenue, when the slide started.

Last week's fatality was the second one in five years. A 53-year-old worker, buried for more than 22 hours, lost his life in February, 1950. Two others narrowly escaped death.

Perilous Operation Sand kept sliding into the pit endangering the lives of rescue workers. Wooden planks were finally wedged into place to hold back the slipping gravel as others worked feverishly to remove sand from around the victims.

Funeral services for Salaveggio were held yesterday at the A. M. Gamby chapel in Lomita. Salaveggio is survived by his widow and three children.

Melvin White, night operator, hit the emergency horn and shut down the plant the moment he became aware of the cave-in. He sent one man for help and went down after the two trapped men.

"Joe's hands were sticking out of the sand; Johnny was buried up to his chest," White related. "We dug frantically with our hands to free them, but sand kept sliding down (Continued on Page 3)

FOR SALE — Large luggage trailer, 4x8 ft. with 4-ft. sides. With tarp for sale cheap. 17428 Korbblum

Thursday morning Martin went out on the porch to pick up his copy of the Torrance Press. Before he even had time to look at his ad the telephone rang. The person called in response to the ad and the trailer was sold.

Why not solve your problem with a classified ad? A friendly, classified salesgirl will help you word your ad just right. Call FA. 8-2345 today.

Another consideration, Stevens said, was to determine if the money could not be spent better hiring adults, especially those who are unemployed and should be given priority.

In the final analysis, the decision rests with the City Council. Stevens concluded, stating that he could not speak for the council on this matter.

## Motorcycle Patrolman Thrown 100'

State Highway Patrolman Jesse Holmes, 34, of 1121 Erieland ave., Torrance, was hurled 100 feet from his motorcycle and knocked unconscious suffering serious injuries in a collision Thursday at Alameda and Monroe streets.

Holmes suffered a compound fracture of the right arm, brain concussion, and possible internal injuries.

CHP investigators said Holmes' machine collided with an auto trailer driven by Worth Ginery, 53, of Long Beach.

The car and trailer are registered to the Lamb Transportation co., 22422 S. Alameda st. Holmes, who is attached to the patrol's Compton office, was taken to Harbor General Hospital. From there he was transferred to St. Vincent's hospital in Lynwood.

Holmes formerly served on the Torrance police force for six years.

## Discourage State Aid To Schools

The Torrance School District was advised this week to "go it alone" as long as possible and not ask for State aid until it's absolutely necessary.

Torrance school officials contacted county school officials last week to investigate the possibilities of State aid in the event that Torrance annexes the 6513 acres of land in the Rolling Hills area.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, said he contacted Bruce Hawks, assistant to the assistant county superintendent of schools.

Some of the bad features of the State program, Hawks pointed out, were that the State would control the building funds and operating costs and that the State would permit construction of only one project at a time, according to Hull.

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## Merchants To Study Bond Proposal For Parking Sites

Downtown merchants and property owners will meet tomorrow to discuss the formation of an assessment district for floating a \$250,000 bond issue to purchase off-street parking sites in downtown Torrance. The meeting will be held at 4 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce.

Cost of such a bond issue will be borne entirely by downtown property owners, C. T. Rippy, chairman of the off-street parking committee, pointed out.

The individual cost would probably run around \$500 per person, Rippy estimated. He pointed out that the cost will depend on how much property will be bought and the length of time decided upon for retiring the bond.

Rippy said the land in the area proposed for the district has been assessed at a total of \$950,000. This includes all of the land on which retail establishments are located.

Part of the area proposed for parking includes improved property.

The area considered for off-street parking sites includes the whole downtown business area, including Carson street but not Torrance boulevard.

Following tomorrow's meeting, the committee will report to the City Council for action on the proposal.

## City May Hire Youngsters If...

The city may consider hiring a limited number of high school students on a part-time basis, City Manager George Stevens indicated this week. The remarks were made in the light of a recently proposed Jobs for Juniors program intended to provide work for youngsters who are on half-day sessions and are looking for jobs.

One of the proposals made by proponents of this program was that the city hire a number of students and put them to work on such city projects as beautifying the entrance to the city of Torrance (Western avenue and Torrance boulevard).

A number of ifs and buts were attached to Stevens' statement, however. Stevens indicated that consideration of a city program for Juniors would depend on whether the budget

would allow it. The city is presently awaiting a budget report for the first half of the fiscal year.

Off-hand the budget appeared to be in good order, Stevens remarked.

Another consideration, Stevens said, was to determine if the money could not be spent better hiring adults, especially those who are unemployed and should be given priority.

In the final analysis, the decision rests with the City Council. Stevens concluded, stating that he could not speak for the council on this matter.

## Little Merchant Plan Used For Press Distribution

Torrance Press carrier boys are in business for themselves. They are given the newspapers, a delivery route, and the opportunity to develop habits of industry and responsibility.

You are entitled to a free delivery of the Torrance Press. If you wish, you may pay the paper boy for his services. What he receives he keeps.

The sum you give him shows your appreciation of his careful service and is his compensation.

Each carrier is required to give a receipt for the sum you give him.

The amount you give him is optional. You are entitled to receive your copy of the Torrance Press whether you pay or not and regardless of how much you pay. However, boys are not to be paid unless they give the proper Torrance Press receipt.

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